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Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in Illinois

RESEARCH MADE BY MRS. EDWIN S. WALKER.

In presenting the records of Revolutionary soldiers buried in Illinois, every effort is made to be accurate.

If the burial place is located and no official record of service is given, research is made in every available source to establish such record of service. If the soldier was pensioned, the military service is obtained from the Pension Department in Washington; further information is secured from the U. S. Treasury Department, as to the time and place of payment of last pension. This practically locates the county where the soldier was buried. Added research is made in the histories of Counties of Illinois, also in visiting old cemeteries, and interviewing the oldest citizens, thus gaining traditional information.

Any person reading these records and knowing additional facts or corrections in statements made, will confer a favor upon the work of Historical Research by sending such information to the State Historical Society.

RANDOLPH COUNTY.

Illinois is rapidly taking a historic position among the states as her history becomes dignified by length of years; but the history of Illinois is far greater than the history of the state.

This becomes impressive as we recall the fact that one hundred years before the date of Boston's historic "Tea Party," Illinois occupied an important place on the map of America.

The history of no part of the state exceeds in interest that of the settlement of Randolph County, and Kaskaskia was the great center of interest. Beautiful for situation and as a

commercial point, it became alike attractive and prospectively important.

The French here held sway for many years, and were succeeded by the British.

Only a few years passed, however, before that intrepid warrior, George Rogers Clark and his band of faithful followers quietly took possession of this part of the territory and planted the stars and stripes in Illinois.

It was but natural that the men who came with Clark should have been charmed with the location and the outlook for future homes for themselves and their families. They were well fitted for the hardships which a new country entailed and for dealing with hostile tribes of Indians which might harrass them. The first considerable American immigration was in 1780 when a colony of pioneer settlers reached Kaskaskia from the Southern states, to be followed by many from the country east of the Alleghanies. Among the number were many soldiers of the American Revolution.

Randolph county is the burial place of many soldiers. Doubtless many were buried where the ravages of water have washed away the land, thus making it impossible to locate their graves. The remains of some of these pioneer-patriots were removed to the cemetery on the hill overlooking the little railroad station called Fort Gage, where the State of Illinois has erected a monument to their memory which bears the following inscription:

“Those who sleep here, were first buried at Kaskaskia and afterward removed to this cemetery. They were the early pioneers of the great Mississippi valley. They planted free institutions in a wilderness and were the founders of a great commonwealth. In memory of their sacrifices, Illinois, grateful, erects this monument. 1892.”

In the following list are many soldiers who came with Clark, and also those who were from the Southern and Eastern states, all of whom lie buried in Randolph County.

JOSEPH ANDERSON was a soldier under George Rogers Clark; he settled on Nine-Mile creek about 5 miles from Kaskaskia, where he died.

BENJAMAN BYRUM was born in New Castle, Penna., in 1753. In the spring of 1781 he came to Kaskaskia. He showed his discharge papers from the service and an oath of fidelity taken at Fort Pitt. He did not live long after coming to Illinois.

MELLINTON COUCH was in the battle resulting in the surrender of Cornwallis. It is not known from what state he enlisted. He is buried at the Preston U. P. cemetery, 6 miles from Sparta. He first resided in Marion County.

JOHN CLENDENIN was a native of Virginia and served in the troops of that state. After the war he removed to Kentucky, settling in Green County, from there he came to Randolph County, Illinois, locating where the city of Chester now is, he resided on a farm now known as the Porter farm.

JAMES CURRY was a soldier with Clark, he settled near the other soldiers with whom he came, not far from Kaskaskia. James Curry had a thrilling experience with the Indians. He and Levi Teel were out hunting and took possession of a cabin built by David Pagan, which was unoccupied, to remain over night. During the night the Indians appeared, and as Teel stood by the door with one foot near the "cat hole," an Indian thrust his spear through his foot, attempting to pull it out, they pinned his hand thus nailing him to the floor. Curry would not listen to Teel who advised opening the door, but went to the loft and fired, killing three; he then tumbled the whole roof, as it was not nailed on, down on the Indians, killing the chief and disabling others which caused the remaining number to flee. Curry helped Teel to reach Kaskaskia where he remained until he recovered from his wounds. James Curry was chosen by Clark to undertake any desperate or hazardous service. He lived and died on Nine-Mile creek. One day he, with Joseph Anderson, was out hunting, as he never returned, it is supposed that he was killed by the Indians and his body taken away by them.

JOHN DODGE was a native of Connecticut, was a trader at Sandusky, Ohio, before the Revolutionary War. He strongly favored the cause of the Colonists, and as a result was arrested by the British who carried him to Detroit and later to Quebec when he escaped in 1779. In that year he was

recommended by Washington to Congress as a man who would be useful in the West. He went to Virginia and was appointed Indian Agent; coming to Kaskaskia he rendered aid to Clark in the work there. He died before 1800 and was doubtless buried in Kaskaskia.

JOHN DOYLE a soldier with Clark, settled near Kaskaskia. He was a man of some education and taught one of the earliest schools in the county. He was also a French scholar.

ROBERT BRATNEY was born in Ireland; coming to America, he settled in Tennessee where he entered the service. In 1820 he removed to Illinois settling near the mouth of Little Plum creek in Evansville township.

CAPT. JOHN EDGAR was born in Ireland, he was in the British Navy. When the Revolutionary war broke out he was a resident of Detroit. He openly espoused the American cause and was seized by the British Commander and sent a prisoner to Quebec; escaping near Montreal he found his way within the American lines. Entering the service he was made captain in the Navy. He remained some time in the service, but came West and in 1784 settled in Kaskaskia. He was a man of great wealth for those times. During the administration of Gov. Arthur St. Clair he was elected to the legislature which convened at Chillicothe, Ohio. He was appointed Major General of the Illinois militia, and in 1790 was made judge of the common pleas court. He died in Kaskaskia in 1832.

JOHN HILTERBRAND AND DAVID HIX were soldiers under Clark, coming to Illinois in 1780, they settled on the east side of Kaskaskia river near the mouth of Nine-Mile creek.

WILLIAM FOWLER was a native of South Carolina where he served in the Revolutionary war, and afterwards received a pension for his service. He came to Illinois in 1816 locating in the Harmon settlement. In 1825 he was living in the township of Mary, where he doubtless died.

PAUL HARROLSON was from South Carolina, where he served in the war. He came to Illinois in 1802, settling on the west side of Kaskaskia river near the mouth of Camp creek. He was a man of prominence in the early days. In 1809 he acted

as Justice of the Peace and from 1803 to 1809 he was commissioner and county clerk. He was pensioned.

JOHN LIVELY came from South Carolina in 1805; he was in the war from that state. He was seemingly a soldier by nature, as he also served in the war of 1812. He settled in the town of Central where he died in 1826.

CHARLES McNABB was born in Maryland, he enlisted Jan. 7, 1778, was a sergeant in the 6th company 1st Maryland Regiment in Capt. Beaty's company; he enlisted again in the 7th company of the 3d Regiment. He came to Illinois, settling in Randolph County, where he died Nov. 1. 1780.

HAYDON MILLS, HENRY SMITH AND ELIJAH SMITH were soldiers with Clark, returning to Illinois, they settled east of Kaskaskia above the mouth of Nine-Mile creek. They were doubtless buried there.

JOHN MONTGOMERY was a private with Clark's soldiers, he returned to Illinois locating four miles from Kaskaskia, where he built a small water mill which was used for many years. He, with many others, was given a body of land for service in the war. He was a well known citizen of the county.

DANIEL MURRAY lived in Kaskaskia with his brother William, before the arrival of George Rogers Clark. He gave Clark substantial aid in Kaskaskia, died there later being shot in a quarrel over some money affairs.

DAVID PAGAN was one of Clark's soldiers, coming to Illinois he settled on Nine-Mile creek a few miles from Kaskaskia, where he was doubtless buried.

RAWLEIGH RALLS was born in Virginia, and served in the Virginia troops, enlisting in the latter part of the war, when quite young. After the war he removed to Tennessee, and in 1809 came to Illinois, settling first in Monroe County, but later on the beautiful ridge afterward known as Rall's Ridge. He only lived a few years after coming to Randolph county.

ROBERT SEYBOK was with Clark's soldiers, he came to Illinois in 1783, and with other settlers was obliged to take refuge in Kaskaskia on account of the Indians.

GEORGE STAMM was born in Maryland. He enlisted at Fredericktown in May 1780 and served until 1783. He was both Private and Musician with Capt. John Smith and Capt. Christian Orendorff and Col. John Eceleston in the Sixth Maryland Regiment. He came to Randolph County, Illinois, and settled at Kaskaskia where he doubtless died. His name is mentioned in the History of Randolph County in various places.

History of Randolph County in various places.

CAPT. JOHN STEELE was a native of Virginia and served as Captain of a company in the Virginia troops. After the war he removed to Tennessee and in 1789 came to Illinois, settling in Randolph County. He was the founder of Steeleville and died Sept. 11, 1820, on the farm where he settled.

JACOB STOPPLEBEAN was born in the state of New York, he enlisted in the Albany County Militia, 8th Regt. under Col. Robert Van Rensselaer. He again enlisted in the Levies under Col. Marinus Willett. The story is told of him that coming home after his first enlistment he met some one of his old home friends who informed him that his wife supposing him dead, had married again and removed to parts unknown. Stopplebean re-enlisted and served to the close of the war. After the war he came to Randolph County, Illinois, where he obtained some land. He died in Jan. 1845, and was buried in what is known as the "Hull Graveyard." He was very eccentric, always sitting with his hat on in the house, one of his foibles was that he was two years younger than General Washington.

LEVI TEEL was a soldier with General Clark and coming to Illinois settled on Nine-Mile creek. He was severely wounded by the Indians when James Curry saved his life. He died in Randolph County.

ROBERT WHITEHEAD was one of the soldiers who came with Clark; he afterward came to Randolph County, and lived near Kaskaskia. He died at an advanced age.

HENRY CRUTCHER AND JOHN ROBERTS served with Clark. Roberts was a Lieutenant and Crutcher was Quartermaster and later he was appointed Commissioner. He with Roberts rendered service by purchasing treasury notes to aid in

prosecuting the war. Both these men lived in Randolph County long after the close of the war and are doubtless buried near Kaskaskia.

The records of the French who were loyal to the American cause are mostly lost.

Col. Clark soon after taking Kaskaskia appointed several men as officers to recruit companies to aid in the conquest of Vincennes. Among the number was Francis Charleville who was appointed Captain. He raised 50 men who enlisted for eight months from Jan. 1779. Of the little band of 50 men, only 28 returned to Illinois, and of this number 10 resided in Kaskaskia after the war, and were listed as heads of families or members of the Militia, later. It would be manifestly unjust to make no mention of these loyal French subjects of the American cause, and we must conclude that the men whose names here presented were buried in Randolph County, in or near Kaskaskia.

Bazelle Allere

Michael Antere

Daniel Blouin

Antoine Bienvenue, Sr.

Jerome Danis

Joseph Danis or Daney

Michael Danis,

Antoine Lavigne

Joseph Richard

Joseph Toulouse

JOSEPH ALLERE was a soldier under Clark and lived in Kaskaskia long after the war.

JEAN BAPTISTE BARBAU, Sr. was from New Orleans, born in 1722. He was Commandant at Prairie du Rocher a justice and deputy county lieutenant.—His will is recorded in Randolph County. He died in 1810.

JEAN BAPTISTE CHARLEVILLE AND MICHAEL GODIN were officers appointed by Colonel Todd. They lived in Kaskaskia after the close of the war and were heads of families.

NICHOLAS JANIS was made Captain and resided in Kaskaskia after the close of the war. It is not known where he died.

WILL COUNTY.

EBENEZER COLLINS was born in New York, he enlisted with Capt. Solomon Wadsworth in the 3d Company, 5th Regiment,

called the Van Veghten Regiment. He came to Illinois settling in Will County. He is probably buried in Homer township.

JOHN COOK was born in Hanover, Morris County, New Jersey, Dec. 25, 1761, enlisted Aug. 1776, serving two years in the companies of Capts. David Bates, Obadiah Kitchell, Elijah Squire, Benjamin Corey, William Ely, John Scudder, Levi Gardiner, Harrison Baldwin, Lewis Brant, and David Lyon with Colonels Benoni Hathaway, Ellis Cook, Sylvanus Seeley, and Moses Jacques—in the New Jersey troops. He came to reside in Will County, Illinois where he died near Joliet, Oct. 24, 1837 and is buried in Oakwood cemetery, Joliet.

CHARLES DENNEY was a native of New York, born in Pauldingstown, Dutchess County, Dec. 25, 1759; he enlisted in the summer of 1777, and served nine months under Captains' Noah Wheeler and Seth Wheeler with Colonel Roswell Hopkins in the New York troops. He came to Will County, Illinois, settling near Joliet where he died Aug. 6, 1839, aged 79 years and is buried at Mokena, Will County.

WILLIAM HEWES was born in Attlebury, Mass., in 1761, he enlisted in June 1780 serving five months under Captains Caleb Robinson and Nehemiah Houghton, with Col. George Reid in the New Hampshire troops. He came to Illinois to reside and died in Crete, Illinois, Will County in 1855.

HAMILTON COUNTY.

FRANCIS DOLLAHIDE was born in Caswell County, North Carolina in 1750; he fought for his country six years, enlisting early in 1776 for three months; again after one week's discharge for three months; again after two weeks for three months, and again in 1781 serving to the close of the war. He served under Captains William Morrow, ——— Small, ——— Taylor, and Samuel Sexton, with Colonel ——— Lytle, and Major Dugan. He also served in Washington's Cavalry, all in the North Carolina troops. He was in the battles of Eutaw Springs and Yorktown. Coming to Illinois, he located in Hamilton County, where he drew a pension. He died Aug. 30, 1837.

AMBROSE MAULDING was a native of Virginia, born August 1, 1735, and served in the war. He came to Illinois after the war and settled in Hamilton County. He served on the jury in 1823. He died in Hamilton County, August 25, 1833, and is buried near McLeansboro, near the Ten-Mile Baptist church. A granddaughter is still living who is 90 years of age and she attended the funeral of Ambrose Maulding. Mr. Harry Anderson of McLeansboro, Illinois, a descendent of Ambrose Maulding, writes me that the epitaph engraved on Ambrose Maulding's tombstone reads as follows: "Immortal may their memory be who fought and died for Liberty, Ambrose Maulding, a pious and devout Christian, Born August 1, 1735. After this he lived 98 years and 25 days, and saw his sons and his sons' sons; so he died being old and full of days on the 25th of August 1833."

LITTLE PAGE PROCTOR was born in Granville County, Virginia in 1760; he enlisted with Capt. Cornelius Riddle, serving from March 1778 until the close of the war and was retained in the service until August 1794. He came to Hamilton County, Illinois to reside and died there November 15, 1852 at the age of 92. He is buried in the Concord cemetery near McLeansboro.

NICHOLAS Proctor was born in Virginia in 1755, he served in the Virginia troops and was doubtless a brother of Little Page Proctor. He came to Hamilton County, Illinois to reside and was pensioned there.

CARROLL COUNTY.

DANIEL CHRISTIAN was a native of Pennsylvania, born in 1762. He enlisted at Reading in September, 1776, serving two months under Captain George Willis; enlisted again serving the same time with Captain ——— Kit; he again enlisted June 1, 1780, serving seven months with Captain ——— Spoon, and Colonel ——— Butler. He removed to Maryland where he applied for a pension in 1833. Coming to Illinois he resided in Mt. Carroll where he died Dec. 26, 1847, and is buried in Mt. Carroll.